

Text of Letter to the Editor  
Friday, February 3, 2006

### **YMCA Unfairly Treated**

A few weeks ago there was a write-up by an individual who took up a half page of hateful and derogatory remarks about the YMCA. He made extravagant exaggerations about many items. One item was the move to their property on Camp Mahackeno. This was used for many years as a summer camp and enjoyed by the many people who used the facility. My sons were at the camp and enjoyed it.

Another of the hateful points he mentioned was that the YMCA does not pay any taxes. Neither does the library. Several years ago the library needed money and asked the town to help.

Many years ago the town dump was located where the library is now. I know because we used to dump our garbage there. Then the town put landfill over the dump and decided to have a tea party to prove that there would be no after-effects that would be any reason for the library not to be there. And – guess what – no one complained nor wrote hateful opinion pieces. I still have pictures of the tea ceremony at the dump.

Incidentally, the YMCA was denied building their facility on Baron's South. People wanted the building near the center of town and that would have been the ideal place.

The library has use of the town's Jessup Green for their book sales and uses Baron's South for their book storage. No one has complained, but every time the YMCA asked for cooperation, they were denied.

I think the YMCA has a right and an obligation to build their facility on property they own at Mahackeno.

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